

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 898

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 03 2023

RE: S.B. No. 971
S.D. 2

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Thirty-Second State Legislature
Regular Session of 2023
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Ways and Means, to which was referred S.B. No. 971, S.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO STUDENT TRANSPORTATION,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to address student transportation needs throughout the State.

More specifically, this measure:

- (1) Requires the Department of Education to collect data on the city bus pass program for public high school students and charter school students and submit a report to the Legislature on the Department's findings and data collected; and
- (2) Appropriates moneys for bus passes for all public high school and charter school students.

Your Committee received written comments in support of this measure from the Department of Education, Hawaii State Public Charter School Commission, Department of Transportation Services of the City and County of Honolulu, Democratic Party of Hawaii Education Caucus, Hawaii Public Health Institute, OahuMPO, Ulupono Initiative, and two individuals.



Your Committee finds that providing high school students with access to public transportation will help to address the State's shortage of school bus drivers and increase the affected students' educational well-being.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the Department of Education shall collect data on the EXPRESS county bus pass program;
- (2) Clarifying that the Department of Education is only required to submit reports to the Legislature through the duration of the EXPRESS county bus program;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2050, to facilitate further discussion on the measure; and
- (4) Making technical nonsubstantive amendments for purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Ways and Means that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 971, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 971, S.D. 2.

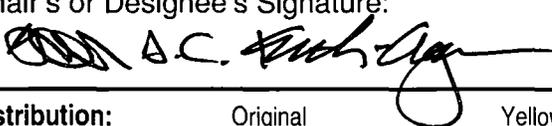
Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Ways and Means,


DONOVAN M. DELA CRUZ, Chair



The Senate
Thirty-Second Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Ways and Means
WAM

Bill / Resolution No.:* SB 971, SD1	Committee Referral: EDU, WAM	Date: 3/1/23		
<input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is: <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
DELA CRUZ, Donovan M. (C)	X			
KEITH-AGARAN, Gilbert S.C. (VC)	X			
AQUINO, Henry J.C.	X			
DECOITE, Lynn	X			
INOUYE, Lorraine R.	X			
KANUHA, Dru Mamo	X			
KIDANI, Michelle N.	X			
KIM, Donna Mercado	X			
LEE, Chris	X			
MORIWAKI, Sharon Y.	X			
SHIMABUKURO, Maile S.L.	X			
WAKAI, Glenn	X			
FEVELLA, Kurt	X			
TOTAL	13			
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: 				
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink Goldenrod File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Copy				

*Only one measure per Record of Votes